GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:961
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
RELATION WITH PAKISTAN
UTTAMRAO NATHUJI DHIKALE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in Pioneer dated January 8, 2000 under caption `Act or perish, ISI tells Kashmir militants`;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan`s ISI has asked several militancy groups operating in J&K to form `fiyadayan Groups` to carry out subversive activities against security forces;

(c) if so, whether the Government still are of the view that diplomatic relations with Pakistan should continue;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI JASWANT SINGH)
(a) Yes, Sir.
(b) to(e) Pakistan continues to pursue its policy of sponsorship of cross border terrorism in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and elsewhere in India.
Government have seen reports regarding the induction into Jammu & Kashmir of suicide squads of Pakistani terrorist groups to raise the level of violence. While we wish to establish a relationship of peace, friendship and cooperation with Pakistan, this can be possible only in a conducive environment for which Pakistan needs to abandon its sponsorship of cross border terrorism and its hostile propaganda against India.
Government also remain firm in their resolve to take all measures necessary to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country.